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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/753,364	01/09/2004	Kunio Baba	04329.3219	6400

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EXAMINER

ULRICH, NICHOLAS S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2112

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/753,364

Applicant(s)

BABA ET AL.

Examiner

Nicholas S. Ulrich

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/09/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/7/06, 1/9/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-12 have been examined

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1,3,4,6,7,9,10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being disclosed by Borden (JP 11-066083).

In regards to **claim 1**, Borden discloses an information processing apparatus comprising:

a processing unit configured to display a picture display field to display a plurality of still pictures (*Fig 6 elements 60, 64, 55, 66, and 62: These elements make up the display field for displaying a plurality of still pictures*)

and an operation field which includes a slider to designate one of the plurality of still pictures to be displayed (*Fig 6 element 30c: This element is the slider located on the operation field used to select a image from display field discussed above*);

and a control unit configured to control to display a still picture having a number corresponding to a position of the slider in the picture display field (*Fig 6 element 50 and paragraph 0068: When a user slides the slider to a different*

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position along the bar, the corresponding image to that location will appear in the display area).

In regards to **claim 3**, Borden discloses an apparatus wherein the slider moves in accordance with a drag operation (*Paragraph 0052*).

In regards to **claim 4**, Borden discloses the apparatus further comprising:

a calculation unit configured to calculate a number of a still picture to be displayed using at least a total number of still pictures and a numerical value indicating a position of the slider (*Paragraphs 0048 and 0049: Borden explains if there were 100 sheets or pictures, the slider bar would be broken up into positions from 0 – 99 to map to the particular reference sheets*).

In regards to **claim 6**, Borden discloses the apparatus wherein the control unit controls to move the slider to a position designated by a pointing device (*Paragraph 0052: A mouse, which is a pointing device, can be used to slide the slider into position*),

calculate a number of a still picture to be displayed using at least a total number of still pictures and a numerical value indicating a position of the slider (*Paragraphs 0048 and 0049: Borden explains if there were 100 sheets or pictures, the slider bar would be broken up into positions from 0 – 99 to map to the particular reference sheets*),

and display a still picture corresponding to the calculated number in the picture display field (*Paragraph 0052: The attention image, which is the still image, can be displayed by moving the slider to the corresponding position of the reference image, which is an image from the picture display field, based on the above process in paragraphs 0048 and 0049*).

In regards to **claim 7**, Borden discloses a display control method for use in an information processing apparatus capable of displaying a picture display field to display a plurality of still pictures, comprising: (*Fig 6 elements 60, 64, 55, 66, and 62: These elements make up the display field for displaying a plurality of still pictures*)

displaying an operation field which includes a slider to designate one of the plurality of still pictures to be displayed (*Fig 6 element 30c: This element is the slider located on the operation field used to select a image from display field discussed above*);

and controlling to display a still picture having a number corresponding to a position of the slider in the picture display field (*Fig 6 element 50 and paragraph 0068: When a user slides the slider to a different position along the bar, the corresponding image to that location will appear in the display area*).

In regards to **claim 9**, Borden discloses a method further comprising:

moving the slider in accordance with a drag operation (*Paragraph 0052*).

In regards to **claim 10**, Borden discloses a method further comprising:

calculating a number of a still picture to be displayed using at least a total number of still pictures and a numerical value indicating a position of the slider
(Paragraphs 0048 and 0049: Borden explains if there were 100 sheets or pictures, the slider bar would be broken up into positions from 0 – 99 to map to the particular reference sheets).

In regards to **claim 12**, Borden discloses a method further comprising:

moving the slider to a position designated by a pointing device *(Paragraph 0052: A mouse, which is a pointing device, can be used to slide the slider into position);*

calculating a number of a still picture to be displayed using at least a total number of still pictures and a numerical value indicating a position of the slider
(Paragraphs 0048 and 0049: Borden explains if there were 100 sheets or pictures, the slider bar would be broken up into positions from 0 – 99 to map to the particular reference sheets);

and displaying a still picture corresponding to the calculated number in the picture display field *(Paragraph 0052: The attention image, which is the still image, can be displayed by moving the slider to the corresponding position of the reference image, which is an image from the picture display field, based on the above process in paragraphs 0048 and 0049).*

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borden (JP 11-066083) as applied to claims 1,3,4,6,7,9,10 and 12 above, and further in view of Masao (JP application 08-116120). Borden does not expressly disclose "moving the slider to a position designated by clicking". Masao discloses moving a scrollbar by clicking (*Paragraph 0011 lines 2 and 3*). Borden and Masao are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of user interface image display apparatus. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to allow movement of slider to be performed by the click of a mouse. The motivation would have been to allow a smarter interface that does not require a user to click and drag a slider across the screen but merely to click on a single position to move the slider to that position. Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Borden with Masao to obtain the invention as specified in claims 2 and 8.

Claims 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borden (JP 11-066083) as applied to claims 1,3,4,6,7,9,10 and 12 above, and further in

view of Anderson (US Patent 5418549). Borden does not expressly disclose "displaying a number of a still picture to be displayed and a total number of still pictures". Anderson discloses a display monitor that displays the present position or current page that is selected by a user and the total number of pages (*Column 5 lines 7-10 and Fig 2 element 42: Based on the position of the scroll bar, the current page number on the display is shown along with the total number of pages not displayed. It is inherently shown that this could be used for a number of images as well as pages*). Borden and Anderson are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of user interface methods. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to display the current number of the image displayed according to a slider along with the total number of images that can be displayed by moving the slider. The motivation would have been to provide the user with information (such as number) regarding the currently viewed image and images available for viewing. Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Borden with Anderson to obtain the invention as specified in claims 5 and 11.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas S. Ulrich whose telephone number is 571-270-1397. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 - 5:00 EST Off every other friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chameli Das can be reached on 571-272-3696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nicholas Ulrich
2112
9/28/2006

Chameli C. Das
CHAMELI DAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

10/12/06